Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of the staff and entertainers of the Underground Garage Channel (an original Rock & Roll format), the Outlaw Country Channel (an original alternative Country format), and "It's The Wiseguy Show!" (an original talk show broadcast on the Uncensored Comedy Channel: Raw Dog), all of which I created and currently broadcast on Sirius Satellite Radio, I wish to express my strong support for the merger of Sirius and XM Satellite Radio (XM).

Since I create and currently broadcast successful programming in both Satellite and Traditional Broadcast Radio, I feel I am uniquely qualified to be objective about what I see clearly as a complementary relationship between the two media.

Traditional Radio will continue to serve the masses and their vast commercial needs, while Satellite will fulfill the ever-growing number of profoundly important niches, which include nothing less than the entire musical history of American culture. These niches, when separated into genres—the history of Rock & Roll, the history of Blues, the history of Jazz, the history of Gospel, etc.—are no longer commercially viable individually, but when offered in combination, are.

The merger will allow the subscription price of Satellite Radio, already quite reasonable in my opinion considering the vast amount of content delivered, to increase at a slower rate, if at all.

It will also allow for the elimination of duplicative programming, making more room for original content.

And finally, the merger will combine and focus the marketing budgets of the two companies which, at present, under-serve the new original content which requires more attention, more detailed explanation, and more publicity than the traditional musical genres the listening audience is used to.

In short, the merger will ensure that both companies, Sirius and XM, will be able to rise above mere survival and allow the new, combined company to have the security and strength to flourish and become a national institution and asset.

Nothing less than the preservation of American musical culture is at stake.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Van Zandt